

TESTIS IN CAELO FIDELIS

The Time

AND

Witness.

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MICHAEL DAVITT'S LECTURE

"Twenty Years of Irish History."

On Tuesday evening, July 22, in the Round Room of the Rotundo, Dublin, Michael Davitt delivered a lecture on "Twenty Years of Irish History," in aid of the fund being raised at present for James Stephens, the Fenian leader. The spacious room was crowded, and large numbers were unable to obtain admission. There was a very large attendance of ladies in evening dress, and when the proceedings began the hall was soon filled with a most brilliant and representative audience. Among those present were:—The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, Messrs. J. E. Redmond, M.P.; W. E. K. Redmond, M.P.; J. Harrington, M.P.; J. Dalton, M.P.; New South Wales; Dr. J. E. Kenny, J. P. Cox, the High Sheriff, Very Rev. Monsignor Murray, Belurbar; Very Rev. Dr. Finnegan, V. G. Kilmore; Rev. H. Brady, Kilmore; Colonel McMahon; Rev. P. O'Donnell, Dean; Rev. J. McFadden, P.P., Gweedore; Peter Byrne, Camden street; P. Lucy, Macroom; Rev. J. Nolan, O.D.C.; Rev. Mr. Barlow, Buffalo, N. Y.; Rev. C. McMahon, Kerr; Rev. P. Fagan, Alderman; Rev. J. Behan.

Mr. Davitt, on coming forward, was cheered loudly. By way of introduction to his lecture, he observed that he was not a man of many words, but he felt it his duty to say a few words to pass sentences upon the faults of others. In the Fenian movement I differed strongly with Mr. Stephens' system of organization, but I never questioned, nor can any other man fairly question, his wisdom, his honesty of purpose, his unselfish devotion to his country, his life-long pursuit of a great and enabling idea—the complete independence of his fatherland (enthusiastic cheer). Looking back to the period which intervened between the movements of '43 and '65, we find an Ireland without anything resembling a Nationalist Democracy (hear, hear). There was no popular cohesion. Faction-fighting disgraced our peasantry, while a narrow spirit of provincial jealousy usurped the place of a healthy National feeling. The public life of the century was stamped with the most revolting West-Britionism that landlord power and anti-national representation could impart to it. During the latter part of this period, however, an agency was at work which was destined to change all this. A silent and mysterious figure was gliding through the land, visiting the remotest hamlets, and infusing wherever he went a glow of enthusiasm into the manhood of each district, and enkindling a spirit of robust revolutionary feeling which was to laugh to scorn the difficulties, the dangers, and the disasters from which the National cause, in a few years after, was destined to rise from defeat to smite the very source of its overthrow (enthusiastic cheers). The great reason for this organization was forged in these years. The task of the country was to fight the tremendous power and advantage of combination. England's government soon discovered that the seeming "Last Conquest of Ireland," which it had hoped the famine of '43 had accomplished, was no conquest at all (cheers), and that the rule of Dublin Castle was again confronted with the deathless spirit of Irish liberty (loud and prolonged cheers). It is unnecessary, in what only can be a cursory glance at the events of the last twenty years, to dwell at any length upon the arrest of Stephens and his associates in 1853; his release, without troubling England for a "ticket-of-leave" to go out; the attempted rising in '67; the imprisonments which followed; the rescue of Killy and Denny, and the execution of Allen, Larkin and O'Brien. All these events have exercised immense influence upon the four subsequent movements which form connecting links between the Fenian movement and the Nationalist movement. England's Nationalist audience to need any further dwelling upon it. The Amnesty movement, in which Isaac Butt performed so noble and philanthropic a work, provided the machinery which enabled him to mould the Home Rule organization and found an Irish Parliamentary Party. Having referred to the Amnesty movement and the Home Rule organization, and the part which Isaac Butt and John Nolan played in these questions, Mr. Davitt went on to refer to what he designated "the landlords' mistake." Mr. Butt did his best to save landlordism from itself, and, consequently, from ruin. He failed, and in his failure the landlords of Ireland lost their last chance of obtaining due power, if not supremacy, in the public national life of Ireland (cheers). Had they joined the Home Rule movement under Butt, their social salvation was secured. An Irish Parliament, such, at least, as might have been got under the federal plan, and in which the landed and local classes could have played almost a dominant part, would have dealt generously with the so-called rights of the landlords. Had they helped to obtain even the semblance of legislative power for their country—had they shown themselves to be Irishmen, confiding in Irishmen, rather than West-Brition land partisans under the protecting power of England's bayonets—national gratitude would have gone out to them from the Irish heart, and they would have been saved from the defeat which has since overtaken them. But the gods, having decreed the destruction of their landlords' land system, deprived them of that reason which might have saved them from the Land League, and made them a tower of strength through the instrumentality of Isaac Butt. But, if they helped Mr. Parnell to obtain an Irish Parliament they would be sure of far more generous terms at his hands than they are likely to obtain from a Democracy which will win legislative rights without their assistance or sympathy, and build an Irish nation upon the ruins of their power (cheers). Mr. Davitt then proceeded to refer to the origin and motives of the Land League.

Land League movement is too recent to permit the formation of unbiased judgment as to its work. Borne of the people, it inherited the people's weakness along with the people's might. If it won nothing else but the admission of England's statesman, that its unwritten law constituted the de facto government of Ireland, it would have deserved well at the hands of Irish Nationalists the world over. It is true, it was a new departure in Irish National effort. The appeal which it addressed to the Irish peasant mind was not born of the exalted patriotism of Thomas Davis, and did not excite to a practice of the virtues of disinterested patriotism. It appeals to self-interest, I admit, rather than to self-sacrifice; but who will say that in this instance the end did not justify the teaching, when no other would have aroused the tenant-farming class to an assertion of their unquestioned social rights, and a vindication of their despised and ramped manhood (cheers). The stigma—if stigma it is—of selfishness has been cast at the Land League. But by whom? By that very class who had elevated property into a social duty, and who have made self-interest the ritual of its worship. The Land League has been denounced for having changed the character of the Irish peasant. Yes, the landlords would have preferred we should remain the ignorant, paying, soulless, helot, who, next to what was due to his God, would place in moral obligation the tax upon his industry that was exacted by his landlord; they would have preferred that his political education should have halted at the formula of Palmerston, that tenant right was landlord wrong. It has been charged against the Land League movement that it relegated the National question to the background in the popular movement, and did nothing to advance the interests of Nationality with the vast resources entrusted to it. This charge I deem to be as unmerited as it is obviously unjust. I claim that the movement of the Land League did more to weaken alien rule in Ireland than any other movement that has sprung up since 1798 (cheers). Its enemies have made the admission. It worked the Irish people the world over into one great organization against the citadel of Castle landlord domination; it proclaimed the great truth, that a paperized country could never lift itself to the dignity of a nation until the oasis of its beggary was destroyed; and it banded its exertions, therefore, to the destruction of Irish landlordism. This vile, demoralizing system is not yet overthrown, I admit. Far from it, I regret; but the means for its complete annihilation are, thank God, always within reach of our people, and Eternal Justice itself has decreed its doom (cheers). But the Land League worked directly as well as indirectly, in the advance of the National cause. It captured the municipalities and other public bodies nearly over Ireland from the hands of the West-Brition. It taught the country that wherever there was a representative post occupied by an enemy there a Nationalist should be placed; and it began the work of driving out the anti-Nationalist from such positions when it evicted the landlords from the constituencies in 1880, and enabled Mr. Parnell to return the men who elected him to the leadership of the Irish Parliamentary Party (cheers). From its ashes, as you know, the present National League has sprung; and with all this record of solid work performed for the National cause, the Land League can well afford to wait the favorable verdict of impartial Irish history (cheers). The secret of the success of the Land League was its fighting policy (cheers). It employed none of the arts of diplomacy. There was nothing opportunistic in its plan of action. It moved on the lines of right principles. It did not beg for concessions—it demanded rights. It was above all, a Home Movement. It fought both landlordism and the Castle in Ireland, and wrested for a time the people and the country from their control (applause). It has been truthfully and eloquently said of "a small but powerful nation of antiquity that, in peace or in war, in arts and in literature, in strange lands and in its own, until the paley of decrepitude had seized upon every fibre of its frame, the dominant and unquenchable attribute that characterized the spirit of Greece above all others, was energy." (Cheers). Persistent energy is an attribute of the Irish people. We are too easily satisfied. Our resolution is too frequently disarmed by the smallest possible concession which is wrung from our enemy's fears or the latest promises held out to us by a faithless adversary. Persistent energy ought to be, but is not, a concomitant characteristic of that intermittent spirit of resistance which has prolonged a struggle for independence which otherwise would have won for Ireland long ago what equal love of liberty but more daring determination of purpose has achieved for Belgium freedom and a Swiss Republic. We have not gone energetically enough on the lines of Thomas Davis's well-known verse—

"The work that should to-day be wrought
Defers not till to-morrow;
The help that should be sought,
Is sought, without to borrow;
Old maxims have, yet stout and true,
To do at once what is to do,
And trust ourselves alone."

(Cheers). Whatever we have won during the last twenty years, we have won by a policy approaching that of these lines; and if we have not achieved more it is because we have not adhered more closely to the spirit of persistent energy and the thorough National policy which they teach. Finally, ladies and gentlemen we have this encouragement, anyhow, in contemplating all that has happened in our country during the last twenty years. We have lost neither heart nor hope; and though we stand to-day a most decimated people—four millions less than we were but a generation ago—we have still, thank God, a firm grip of our fatherland, and are almost standing on the threshold of its recognized nationhood (cheers). What has been the secret of this phenomenal struggle of ours against overwhelming odds, not only in the movements of the last twenty years, but of the past seven centuries also? That indestructible power which

Thierry has so eloquently eulogized in chronicling the conquest of that country which has failed to subjugate this island home of ours: "This unconquerable obstinacy, this lengthened remembrance of departed freedom, this faculty of persevering amid suffering the thoughts of that which is no more, of never ceasing to repair of a constantly vanquished cause, for which many generations have successively and in vain perished in the field and by the executioner, is perhaps the most extraordinary quality and the greatest example that a people has ever given." It is this love of liberty that gave to James Stephens the secret of arousing the enthusiastic self-sacrifice of the youth of Ireland which manifested itself from 1865 to 1870; it was, I am sure, the main spring of the efforts which Isaac Butt put forth, but in vain, to win the landed Aristocracy of Ireland to the National cause, and save them from social wreckage (applause); and it is, I believe, the secret of that cementing influence of National unity with which Mr. Parnell won the confidence and leadership of the Irish people (cheers). In a sentence, it is to-day what it was when Dean Swift declared—"By the law of God and of nations, we are destined to be free as the people of England; and we shall be free." And whenever upon this inherent and indestructible love of liberty we engraft a spirit of persistent energy which is also worthy of it, we will render our cause invincible against open defeat or the demoralization of inadequate concession, and end a struggle of centuries' duration in a manner alike worthy of the genius of Irish Nationality, and satisfactory to the aspirations of the Celtic race (loud and prolonged applause).

THE CAROLINE ISLANDS.

PROBABLE RUPTURE OF HISPANO-GERMAN COMMERCIAL AND DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

MADRID, Aug. 21.—The reply of Germany to Spain's protest in reference to the former's annexation of the Caroline Islands has been received by the Government here. It is couched in friendly terms and in it the German Government offers to submit the claims of Spain to the Caroline Islands to a fair examination. It is reported here that two Spanish war ships have occupied Yap, the chief island of the Caroline group. The feeling in Madrid against Germany because of her assumption of the possession of these islands is no lighter as to cause alarm. At a meeting of the Geographical Society last night, various members made speeches violently denouncing the action of Germany, which was received with applause. It is expected that a hostile demonstration will be made against the German embassy, and in consequence a body of police has been detailed to guard that building.

MADRID, Aug. 21.—The irritation against Germany increases hourly. The official press are more indignant than the opposition press, but the newspapers generally advocate reprisals. Count von Solms-Sonnenwalde, German ambassador to Spain, now abstains from visiting the theatres and avoids public promenade and places of amusement. It is semi-officially stated that the Government intends to rupture commercial and diplomatic relations existing between Spain and Germany unless Germany abandons her claim to the Carolines. Senior Carver, in an address before the Spanish Africa Society to-day, denounced Germany for trespassing upon Spanish rights. The society has decided to reassemble and pass resolutions, demanding that Spain take energetic action against the German occupation of the Caroline Islands. Bismarck's reply to the Spanish protest is considered evasive and unsatisfactory, although he professes to be willing to submit Spain's claims to the examination of arbitrators.

LONDON, Aug. 23.—The Spanish Embassy ridicules the report that King Alfonso has resigned his commission as an honorary colonel of an Union regiment in the German army.

MADRID, Aug. 23.—The anti-German demonstration began in Madrid to-day at four o'clock. Forty thousand persons have assembled on the Prado with banners and other emblems. Speeches were made in Spanish and French denouncing Bismarck's action in annexing the Carolines. The chief speaker was a Spanish colonel in full uniform. No insulting reference was made to Germany, but the rights of Spain were fully proclaimed. A procession marched through the chief streets, arousing great enthusiasm. Opposite the prime minister's palace cheers were raised for the premier, but he did not appear, and the cheers turned to howling and whistling. Several men scalded the balconies and planted a national flag, amid a storm of enthusiastic cheers. All the clubs, including military and artistic, displayed banners. The procession was headed by the Democratic leaders. It did not pass through the street upon which the German legation is situated. At a meeting of the military club, General Salamanca presiding, it was unanimously agreed, amid intense excitement, to expel all German honorary members.

A TERRIBLE AFFAIR.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., August 24.—A special from Talladega says: J. H. McGowan killed and dressed a pig for a barbecue last Friday. His three children, aged eleven, nine and four, saw the process of butchering. Next day McGowan left home, and the children agreed to repeat the process of the day before. Having no pig, the two children proceeded to butcher the youngest. They cut its throat and hung it up by the heels and were proceeding to disembowel it when their mother discovered them.

A SUSPECTED DYNAMITER.

DUBLIN, August 24.—A medical student named Colbert, who was recently arrested in London on a minor charge, is suspected of being a dynamiter. He had long been unsuccessfully watched by Jenkinson's men. He is believed to be mixed up in an attempt on Secretary Foster in 1881.

THE BRASS BAND.

STUDIES IN IRISH HISTORY.

BY JUSTIN HUNTLY MCCARTHY, M.P.

The failure of the Young Ireland movement found Ireland back upon a long period of political apathy and domestic wretchedness. Starvation and misery forced the people into steady and incessant emigration. Revolution was in full swing, and between evictor and emigrant it is estimated that almost a million of people left Ireland between 1847 and 1857. "In a few years more," said the *Times*, exultingly, "a Celtic Irishman will be as rare in Connemara as is the Red Indian on the shores of the Manhattan." "The *Times* was not a true prophet was not the fault of the majority of the Irish landlords. The evictions took place by the hundred, by the thousand, by the ten thousand. Winter or summer, day or night, fair or foul weather, the tenants were ejected. Sick or well, bedridden or dying, the tenants, men, women or children, were turned out—evictions as much for graziers' purposes as for nonpayment of rent, which in those evil days of famine and failure they could not pay. They might go to America if they could; they might die on the roadside if so it pleased them. They were out of the hut, and the hut was unroofed that they might not seek its shelter again, and that was all the landlord cared about. The evicted tenant might, said Mitchell, raise his dying eyes to heaven and bless his God that he perished under the finest constitution in the world. It is hardly a matter of surprise, however much of regret and reprobaton, that the lives of evicted landlords should often be in peril, and often taken. At that time the Ribbon organization flourished. The Ribbon organization, and kindred associations, were rendered inevitable by the conditions under which the Irish peasantry were compelled to live. Given a dominant landlord class, either of alien race themselves, or supported by their adherents to an alien race; given the existence of a body of laws which allowed every right to the landlord in the face of famine and eviction; given a matter of logical necessity that bodies like the Ribbon Society should come into existence and flourish. In them the peasant saw his only defence against the hateful landlord class, and still more hateful law which kept that landlord class in existence. There is a fine passage in Gerald Griffin's immortal novel, "The Collegians," which bears striking testimony to the way in which English law was then, and has been ever since, regarded by the Irish peasant. "The peasantry of Ireland have, for centuries, been at war with the laws by which they are governed, and watch their operation in every instance, with a jealous eye. Even go to court, and even naturally atrocious, and even in opposition to their regard for government which they consider unfriendly. There is scarcely a cottage in the South of Ireland where the very circumstances of legal denunciation would not afford, even to a murderer, a certain passport and concealment and protection."

There have been many secret societies in the modern history of Europe—the Tugendbund, the Carbonari and the Camarra—but none have been more remarkable, more mysterious, or, for a time, more successful than the Ribbon Society. "It is assuredly strange indeed, almost incredible, that although the existence of this organization was, in a general way, as well as as widely known as the fact that Queen Victoria reigned or that Daniel O'Connell was once a living man; although the story of its crimes has thrilled judge and jury, and parliamentary committee have had its records and blue books with knowledge of its proceedings, thus to this hour the wildest conflict of assertion and conclusion as to what exactly were its real aims, its origin, structure, character, and purposes." For more than half a century the Ribbon Society has existed in Ireland, and even yet it is impossible to say how it began, how it is organized, and what are its exact purposes. Its aim seems chiefly to have been to defend the land-reef from the landlord; but it often had a strong political purpose as well. As A. M. Sullivan stated, that he long ago satisfied himself that the Ribbonism of one period was not the Ribbonism of another, and that the voracity of its aims and character prevalent among its members in one part of Ireland often differed widely from those professed in some other part of the country. "In Ulster it professed to be a defensive or retaliatory league against Orangism; in Munster it was first a combination against the tithe-proctors; in Connaught it was an organization against rack-renting and evictions; in Leinster it was often mere trade unionism dictating by its mandates and enforcing by its vengeance the employment or dismissal of workmen, stewards, and even domestics." All sorts of evidence and information of the most confused kind has, from time to time, been given respecting Ribbonism, much of it the merest fiction. All that is certain is that it, and many other formidable organizations, existed among the peasantry of different parts of Ireland.

Many of the landlords themselves were in no enviable condition. Mortgages and settlements of all kinds, the results of their own or of their ancestors' profuse, hung on their estates, and made many a stately showing rent roll the merest simulacrum of territorial wealth. Even rack-rents could not enable many of the landlords to keep their heads above water. At length the English Government made an effort to relieve their condition by passing the Encumbered Estates Act, by means of which a landlord or his creditors might petition to have an estate sold in the court established for that purpose under the act. In 1835, by a Supplementary Irish Landed Estates Act, the power of the

act were increased to allow the sale of properties that were not encumbered. Whenever England has had to legislate for Ireland, she has always displayed a pleasing alacrity in legislating for the advantage of the Irish landlord class, and a corresponding perfidious unwillingness to legislate for the Irish peasant. The vast body of the Irish people cared little or nothing for the legislation that was to the advantage of the landlord class. They regarded, and rightly regarded, that class as the curse of their country, as the mainstay of the English garrison. "But the wants of the tenant closely concerned the Irish race, and in August, 1850, those who sympathized with the tenants' cause began to agitate for legislation. A conference was called by Dr. (afterwards Sir) John Gray, the Protestant owner of the *Freeman's Journal*, by the Presbyterian barrister, Mr. Greer, who later represented Derry in Parliament, and by Frederick Lucas, the Catholic owner of the *Tablet*. A conference of men of all classes and creeds was held in Dublin—"a conference," then Mr. Bright called it in the House of Commons, "of earnest men from all parts of Ireland, and a Tenant League was started. Everything was against the League. The indifference of England, the prostration of the country after the famine and the rebellion, the apathy, even the hostility, of the Irish Liberal members were all combined against it. Then came the reorganization of the Catholic Church in England, and Lord John Russell's "Durham Letter," which for the time made any political alliance between the Catholic and Protestant impossible. But when, in 1852, the Whig Ministry went out, and Lord Derby, coming in with the Tories, dissolved Parliament, the chance of the Tenant Leaguers came. Some fifty tenant-right members were elected. It seemed for a moment as if a new era had dawned for Ireland. The country had for a time a large body of representatives pledged together for a common purpose of a truly national character. Many of the men who had been elected were men of the highest character, honor and patriotism. Conspicuous among the champions of tenant right was Charles Gavan Duffy, who had played so prominent a part in the history of the *Nation* newspaper of Young Ireland, and the brief, brave, hopeless rebellion of 1848, who had been tried time and again on the charge, always honorable to Irishmen, of treason, and whom even the ingenuity of the juries of Green street had not succeeded in convicting. There was a short and distinguished Parliamentary career waiting for Charles Gavan Duffy before he went across the sea to find in a new world that fair fortune which was denied to him and to all National Irishmen in his own country and in England.

Another conspicuous figure in the movement was Frederick Lucas, one of the most upright and pure minded of politicians, a man whose name was destined to become very famous in Irish politics, and who was destined himself to become the leader of an Irish party expressing opinions which would have appeared strangely advanced to the tenant rights, although they seemed strangely behind the age to us of to-day. Isaac Butt was elected for Youghal; in Mr. John Francis Maguire, Ireland had a representative, eloquent, honest and able—a man who might be called a Nationalist in the sense that Irish members of Parliament in those days were National, and who at all times did his best to be of service to his country.

Unfortunately for the country and the cause, the tenant right party in the House of Commons contained members—and those unhappily the most prominent—who were neither pure, nor honorable, nor patriotic. The leader of the tenant right party in the House of Commons—the Irish Brigade as it came to be called—was the once famous John Sadlier. His lieutenants were his brother, James Sadlier, Mr. William Keogh, and Mr. Edmund O'Flaherty; these men were all adventurers, a man of them, swindlers. John Sadlier was a man of no markable audacity. He was absolutely unprincipled. He regarded the cause with which he was connected solely as a means of advancing the selfish personal interests of himself and of his accomplices. He was not merely a political adventurer, a Sir Mahony of the House of Commons; he was a swindler of no ordinary address. He got about him a gang of rascals like himself, no less unscrupulous, only a little less gifted in deceit and in fraud. For a time this syndicate of scoundrels deceived the Irish people by their pretensions and protestations. The Sadliers owned the Tipperary Bank, one of the most popular banks in Ireland; they had plenty of money, but were miserably miserably they started a paper, the *Telegraph*, to keep them before the public; they were good speakers, and they led good speakers; for a time a good many people believed in them. Sadlier even succeeded in getting some honest men who had been sent to represent Irish constituencies in Parliament to believe in him and his lofty purposes, and so to further his secret aims by lending their respectability and their righteousness to him and his gang. Then, however, when the power of Sadlier was at its highest he was distrusted by most intelligent Irishmen, and that distrust was soon justified.

Lord Derby went out of office, and Whig Lord Aberdeen came in, and the leaders of the noisy distant brass band took office under him. John Sadlier became a Lord of the Treasury; Keogh was made Irish Solicitor-General; O'Flaherty Commissioner of Income Tax. There was fierce indignation, but they kept their places and their course for a time. Then they broke up. John Sadlier had embezzled, swindled, forged; he ruined half Ireland with his fraudulent bank; he made use of his position under Government to embezzle public money; he committed suicide—that is to say, he was supposed to have committed suicide; for there were many persons who believed that, and there are many persons who believe still, that the body which was found in Hampton Heath, and which was assigned to the grave under circumstances of mysterious haste and secrecy, was not the body of John

Sadlier. In one of the greatest of German romances, the "Flower, Fruit and Thorn Pieces," of Jean Paul Richter, the hero passes himself off for dead, and seeks a new life far from his old home, leaving behind him an afflicted widow and sorrowing friends, under the conviction that he is no more. There were many persons who believed that John Sadlier, like another Sisebutus, had died only in name, and was quietly enjoying the rewards of his deception in the security of self-chosen exile. The story is not very credible, but it will at least serve to show what public opinion at the time thought of John Sadlier, and of John Sadlier's immortality. His brother James, his confederate, was formally expelled from the House of Commons, a punishment so rarely exercised in our time that it might almost be said to be non-existent. O'Flaherty hurried to Denmark, where there was no extradition treaty, and then to New York, where he lived—and, we believe, still lives—under the name of Stewart, a familiar figure in certain circles of New York society, famous as a diner-out, as a good story-teller, and a humorist—a sort of combination of Brill Savarin and the later Richelieu, with a dash of Ginepro de Passamento. Keogh, the fourth of this famous quadrilateral, their ally, their intimate, their faithful friend, contrived to keep himself clear of the crash. He was immediately made a judge, and was conspicuous for the rest of his life for his unflinching and unaltering hostility to any and every National party. Only a Perscus, or a Pausan who could do full justice to the history of this extraordinary quadrilateral. The story may, however, be summed up somewhat epigrammatically thus: There was once four men, close friends, companions, allies, partners in politics, partners in sin, bound in a brotherhood of common aims and common interests. One was a forger and a swindler, who was expelled from the House of Commons, and who fled the country; the third embezzled public money, and also fled the country; the fourth was made a judge.

It is not to be wondered at that the lamentable end of the Brass Band and the disasters of the tenant-right movement should have produced another period of political apathy in Ireland, as far as a constitutional agitation was concerned. But there were other agitations on foot. Another experiment, which had been tried and failed in '48, was to be tried again under new conditions.

AN ENQUIRY WANTED

BY THE FRENCH INTO PAIN'S FATE—A MATTER OF VENOUSTY.

PARIS, Aug. 24.—Henri Rochefort says the English despatches put forth to falsify his statement that Olivier Pain had a pistol on his head, and was executed by order of the British officials in the Sudan, are a tissue of lies, and he demands a Government enquiry. M. Clemenceau, now announces that he coincides in the opinion that it is the duty of the French Government to investigate the whole Pain case, and do it at once. It is semi-officially announced that France considers the explanations made by England concerning the alleged death of Pain sufficient, and that they close the incident as far as the two Governments are concerned, and that the dispute is now made by the Kitchen and M. Selowitch, which is the business of those gentlemen, to reconcile. At a meeting of the Peace Society to-day it was resolved to demand the formation of a committee of enquiry into the Pain affair, the committee to be composed of French and English citizens and to apportion the blame of those who are guilty.

SENATOR EDMUNDS' PREDICTION.

NEW YORK, August 23.—Senator Edmunds and family arrived from Europe yesterday. In an interview the Senator, in response to a question about the present condition of trade in England, said, "It is depressed—very much depressed. I made inquiries wherever I went on that point, and the reply was everywhere the same. The cause is undoubtedly overproduction. England has gone on manufacturing until she has glutted all its markets. There is already a wide feeling there that England can only save herself and prevent starvation or emigration among her working people by following the example of this country and adopting a protective tariff policy. Indeed, I think she will be compelled to do so."

FROSTS IN THE NORTH-WEST.

ST. PAUL, August 24.—The signal service has advised reporting a killing frost over the greater portions of the North-West territory extending southward to the Northern part of Minnesota. The temperature fell to 27 degrees at St. Vincent just before sunrise this morning. This is low enough to form ice and kill vegetation. The report says the frost is not likely to extend very far south of St. Vincent. The lowest temperature reported this morning was 25, observed at Minnedosa, Minn. The air in St. Paul is crisp and chilly, but there has been no frost here. Guests are having the lakes in large parties to-day for the south.

CABLE BREVITIES.

The condition of John Ruskin continues to improve.
The expulsion of Russians from Eastern Germany continues.
Admiral Kennedy, who served in the Civil War in America, is dead.
At the emperors' meeting at Kremenar arrangements will be made for the final annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina to Austria.
Mr. Phelps, American Minister, who has been suffering from cold and a slight attack of lumbago, is better. He has gone to the country with his wife for a short visit.
Mr. Richard Lalor, member of Parliament for Queen's County, Ireland, is about to retire from public life on account of ill health. He is an Irish Nationalist, and has sat for Queen's County since 1880.